

# The OSCILLATOR

Volume 30 Issue 8  
August 2007

## Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We seek to advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.

### ARRL JULY BOARD MEETING

At the second meeting of 2007 the ARRL Board of Directors, the Board reaffirmed its belief that background investigations by third party agencies of amateur radio volunteers are not a requirement of our memorandum of understanding. The ARRL policy is that "communications volunteers participating in ARRL-sponsored programs should not be required by served agencies to undergo background investigations of any kind," but notes that criminal background checks -- performed by law enforcement agencies -- are "generally acceptable." The policy continues, "It is not reasonable for a served agency to require these volunteers to consent to credit checks, mode of living investigations or investigative consumer reports. In negotiating or renegotiating Memoranda of Understanding that commit the League to provide volunteer emergency communications support, the League must be assured that these volunteers will not be required by the partner organization to consent to credit checks, mode of living investigations or investigative consumer reports."

In a discussion of digital technology, the Board considered the extent to which D-STAR systems fall within the FCC definition of "repeater." Some repeater coordinators do not consider D-STAR to be a repeater. Further discussions will take place in the matter.

### ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND TAIL GATE

#### FLEA MARKET - AUGUST 8th

OTVARC is affiliated with ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio and is a *Special Service Club*. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month.

Our August 8th meeting will be held at **The Cedar Hills Park, 2300 SW Cedar Hills Blvd., just north of Walker Rd.** beginning at 7:00 pm. We'll enjoy our annual ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND TAIL GATE FLEA MARKET. Bring home made ice cream or your favorite topping. Cold drinks will be provided. Bring lawn chairs.

We need volunteers to mix and make some home-made ice cream. We plan to have some sugar free for those who require/prefer it. If you can help, call or email Everett W6ABM.

Our September 12th meeting will be at The Peppermill Restaurant, 17455 SW Farmington Rd, Aloha, phone: 503.642.5193. This is likely to be our new meeting location for the remainder of this year.

#### 2008 FIELD DAY SITE

In 2007 we premiered a new Field Day site at "Stub" Stewart State Park in western Washington County. Many of you were present to enjoy this new location.

JD Fort K7JDF and Steve Ward AD7OG have recommended to the Board of Directors that we return to this location for the June 28-29 2008 Field Day. At their meeting on July 25th the Board accepted their recommendation and moved to place a deposit for this site for our next Field Day effort.

Our thanks to all who contributed to the success of the June 23-24, 2007 event. We especially appreciate those who supported JD and Steve in this year's outing.

#### Happy August Birthday

8	John M. Hays	KD7OHK
10	Patrick Mohr	KC7ZZV
16	Jim Blanchard	W7HOW
19	Russell Graham	KD7BSA
21	Dana Gehm	KB6VIV
23	Verne T. Smith	W7GRN
24	Jeff Boone	KE7NVY
30	Jill Mohr	KC7ZZY
31	Charles Dennis	WA5ZTD

**Have we missed your  
birthday?  
Likely we do not have your  
correct date in our database.**

**Send updates and  
corrections to  
otvarc@gmail.com**

## CLUB MEETING INFORMATION

Our August 8th Meeting will be at Cedar Hills Park (north of the intersection of Walker Rd and Cedar Hills Blvd), Wednesday, August 8th. We'll have the shelter again. This will be our ICE CREAM SOCIAL and we'll do our annual TAIL GATE FLEA MARKET in the parking lot. Starting time will be 7:00 pm, but come early if you wish.

We need several folks bringing home made ice cream with their favorite recipe. Let Everett W6ABM know (Everett < arsw6abm@gmail.com >) if you plan to bring ice cream. Others can bring toppings, etc. We should have a good time together.

We'll be moving to Peppermill Restaurant at 17455 SW Farmington Rd, Aloha September 12th. This will be our meeting home for the remainder of 2007. Beyond that, we'll see how the new venue satisfies the members and our needs.

Plan to make the Second Wednesday your OTVARC Weednesday each month.

## LUNCH BUNCH

Our August Lunch Bunch  
Will be held at

On Saturday, August 25th. - 1:30 pm

Tom's Pancake House  
12925 SW Canyon Rd.  
Beaverton  
503.646.2688

For More Information, call  
Linda KC7YTD  
503.246.8879



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mcorourke@netzero.com

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## OTVARC Contest Group

The Club call sign, W7OTV will be on the air again Saturday, August 18, 2007 for the summer edition of the North American QSO Party, (NAQP). This is the perfect contest for both experienced and new operators to get on the air for a friendly low key contest. Everyone is limited to 100 watts, so we don't have to be a "big gun" to make contacts all over the country and work some DX tool

We will be on the air Saturday, August 18th from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM. Operators, loggers and relief for two HF stations are needed. Shy? Come on by and socialize, (we do that a lot anyway) get some "Elmering" on just about anything you're needing some help with too.

You know when, the where is the QTH of KD7VIK in Aloha. For more information contact:

Ron O'Connor - KD7VIK  
e-mail: KD7VIK@ARRL.net

If you can't participate in this contest but want more information about future events, give Ron a call or email and become part of this club activity.

## 146.960 MHz Repeater By Shoutcast

16 JUNE -16 JULY 2007

Geographic location	Visitors	Play duration
United States	27	2:57:46
Germany	8	1:15:51
France	6	0:31:15
Australia	3	0:03:48
Russian Federation	2	0:06:16
Netherlands	2	0:10:21
Sweden	2	0:06:58
Switzerland	2	0:18:37
Denmark	1	0:24:36
Austria	1	0:01:07
Japan	1	0:01:34
Slovenia	1	0:01:51
Philippines	1	0:06:06
Argentina	1	0:01:03
Mexico	1	0:18:03
Venezuela	1	0:01:00
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>6:26:12</b>

## GENERAL CLASS UPDATE SERIES

Our Technician Class license to General Class Upgrade Series takes place September 29, October 2, 4, and 6. Saturday sessions are 8:30 to Noon and Tuesday/Thursday 6:30 to 9:30 pm. The club sponsors this twelve-hour preparation course to assist members and others to upgrade their licenses. The Exam follows on October 6th. at 1:00 pm. There is no charge for the series.

The General Class Upgrade series is held at Ronler Acres Fire Station in Hillsboro. Class ELMERS assist in helping class members with questions in the new General Class Pool (effective July 1, 2007). If you would like to be included, drop an email to [otvarc@gmail.com](mailto:otvarc@gmail.com).

## FREE TECHNICIAN CLASSES

Classes August 4, 11, 18  
1:00 - 4:00 pm

Three Sessions - Total 12 Hours  
Advance registration is requested

Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue Station 67  
13810 SW Farmington Rd, Beaverton  
(Community Room, enter from rear)

Contact: Janet WB7JFC (503.648.4147)  
or John KA7BRZ (503.452.2459)

**OTVARC SNAIL ADDRESS:**  
880 NE 25th Ave Ste 2-160  
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258

## VE JULY SESSION

The big rush of 2007 may be over. Since our May session with 20 applicants, we came down to a more typical 8 applicants in July. I sent half of the VEs home. From now on I'll schedule one team. If by chance we get a big group we'll cope -- even 20 applicants is pretty do-able for a group of 3 + 1. The paper just piles up a bit deeper is all.

Results were very good in July, with four people earning a Technician, one a General, and two Extras. One bright young applicant, 9, missed his Technician by one point. His mom emailed me the next day to tell me he went to a session in Tigard and passed. He had been studying for one whole week. He's probably already working on his General.

Thanks to the VEs. Working the session were Monty AB6WS, Will N7THL, and Andy KE7AUB. Several others get credit for showing up "just in case": Everett W6ABM, Dennis AC7UY, and Paul KC7PMU. Our next session is Saturday August 4, 1:00 pm at Ronler Acres.

73, Carl WS7L


The VE Team is headed by Carl WS7L and Will N7THL. We thank them for their leadership. Team members complete an open-book test prior to appointment by the ARRL VEC.

## ARRL Board, from Page 1

The Board set a goal of attaining 30,000 new licensees in 2008. Since around 6,000 licensees disappear from the ranks of amateurs each year through attrition and non-renewal, this goal is to open amateur radio to those who do not consider it now.

We are represented at the Board of Directors by our Northwestern Division Director, Jim Fenstermaker K9JF.

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Fax: 503-547-8200



## ITALY GETS 4 METERS

Italy is the 34th DXCC entity (see [www.70mhz.org](http://www.70mhz.org)) now having an ham-radio allocation in the 70-MHz range. On July 12th Italian Authorities released three 25-kHz segments centered around 70,100, 70,200 and 70,300 MHz respectively. The story began with the request of a few hams to carry out an experimental campaign under the technical coordination of a University, and concluded with a general authorization for all Italian amateurs ([www.space.it/70mhz/](http://www.space.it/70mhz/) with an English summary at the bottom of the page). Although the authorization expires on December 31st 2007, the perspectives of a permanent allocation to Italian amateurs appear good. The band offers opportunities of transatlantic contacts during the summer sporadic-E period, and intercontinental contacts via transequatorial propagation during high sunspot periods.

## The History of the Four Metre Band

Historically, the British radio amateur had held an allocation in what before the war was known as 'the ultra high frequencies' meaning 56 M/C (yes megacycles in those days!). After the war when amateur transmission was resumed the British amateur was allocated 58.5 to 60MHz, but this was available to him for little more than three years, with the spectre of BBC Television looming on the horizon and requiring this band (the first TV station was on 45 M/C's but the second one, at Sutton Coldfield, was scheduled to go plonk of the middle of the five metre band. There was a commemorative 'Last Night on Five' on March 31st, 1949, when the small number of pioneers who used the band foregathered to see the curtain drop). Greenland is the only entity in North America.

Very soon the National Society began to lobby for an allocation above the Band One television spectrum and made a point that there existed a long history of 'Ultra High Frequency' operation so couldn't something be found to replace 'Five'? Indeed it was, and it was called 'Four', initially a small chunk from 70.2 to 70.4MHz, but steadily widened as the years passed and as the national society made a case for more room at 4 Metres, and also asked for easement of the restriction on 'no operation within 50 miles of the Jodrell Bank Radio Telescope'.

The truncated 70MHz band became available to UK amateurs in November, 1956. The 200KHz then available amply accommodated the few who tried their hand at the new band, and today when it extends from 70.025 to 70.5MHz, there is more than enough room.

by Jack Hum G5UM

## ARMY MARS WINLINK

The Army MARS new Winlink Messaging System has provided real-life connections for some 200 boys and girls whose separation from family members had very special significance. Capt. Jeff Hammer N9NIC who holds the MARS call sign AAR5WL is an Afghanistan veteran. He recently set up his portable MARS station at the Indiana Guard's Family Program Youth Camp at Camp Atterbury. He briefed each camper's family on sending a MARSgram.

MARSgrams are free radio messages that connect service personnel and their family and friends. As in many summer programs, phone calls and e-mail were not allowed. The MARSgram was Hammer's solution.

Before e-mail and the cell-phone, amateur radio operators in the Military Affiliate Radio System handled hundreds of thousands of them for troops in the Korean War, Vietnam and the first Gulf War. The service is still available though not as frequently utilized as it once was.

A Capital News Online)

**Your 2007 Club Roster is available for use at:**  
<http://tinyurl.com/296rdb>

This URL takes you to a spread sheet with roster information. It will be kept current. Your role in the freshness of the information is to notify the club when something changes at [otvarc@gmail.com](mailto:otvarc@gmail.com).

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## FCC DENIES CC&R CHANGE

The FCC has turned down a request filed by Don Schellhardt, K14PMG, representing a group calling itself Hams For Action that sought FCC preemption over deed restrictions some hams face in putting up towers and antennas.

In the petition Don Schellhardt and Hams For Action challenged the depiction of all CC&Rs as voluntary. This is because some jurisdictions require housing developments to adopt CC&Rs and other areas have little or no housing available that is not subject to such restrictive rules. They also cited the role played by hams in disaster situations.

In its letter of denial, the FCC said that it still views deed restrictions as a personal contract between a buyer and a seller. As such they are not subject to Commission oversight. The FCC also disputed the claim that antennas are needed at the homes of radio amateurs to handle disaster relief operations. It said that there has been no showing by Schellhardt and Hams For Action that the communications provided by Amateur Radio operators during emergencies such as earthquakes and hurricanes have been adversely affected by residential CC&Rs. Rather, says the FCC, communications from areas affected by disasters typically occur from transmitters that are not subject to CC&Rs. These are usually mobile or hand-held radios, or temporarily installations at buildings such as schools, shelters, or government locations.

The FCC says that it does not believe that the anticipation of disaster events is grounds for it to revisit a policy that applies to an Amateur Radio operator's ability to install antennas and antenna support structures where they reside. Nor will it preempt private deed restrictions to make it so.

From Amateur Radio Newsline

## FM ON TEN METERS

Where to look for FM activity on Ten.

Simplex 29.200....Japan Simplex  
 29.300....simplex  
 29.400....simplex  
 29.450....simplex (UK hams use this)  
 29.500....simplex  
 29.600....simplex and calling channel

Repeater Pair (out/in)

29.620/29.520  
 29.640/26.540  
 29.660/29.560  
 29.680/29.580

## HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

**11 August 2007**

### RCT Hamfest & Electronics Fleamarket

Radio Club of Tacoma  
 Bethel Jr High School, Spanaway  
 22001 38th Ave E, Spanaway WA

<http://www.w7dk.org>

Contact: John Clarke AC7WW

253.475.5854

[clarke73@peoplepc.com](mailto:clarke73@peoplepc.com)

**28 - 30 Sep 2007**

### Pacific Northwest VHF+ Conference

Bend Oregon  
 Shilo Inn Suites Hotel  
<http://www.pnwvhfs.org>

**27 October 2007**

### SWAPTOBERFEST

Amateur Radio Emergency Services Convention  
 Mid-Valley ARES  
 Polk County Fairgrounds  
 Rickreall Oregon  
[www.swaptoberfest.net](http://www.swaptoberfest.net)  
 PO Box 584  
 Dundee, Oregon 97115

**30, 31 May, 1 June 2008**

### SEA-PAC

### Northwestern Division Convention

[www.seapac.org](http://www.seapac.org)  
 C. Wayne Schuler, AI9Q  
 16414 NE 21st Avenue  
 Vancouver, WA 98684  
 Phone: 360-892-5580  
 Fax: 360-892-5580  
 Email: [ai9q@arri.net](mailto:ai9q@arri.net)

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 Web: [www.dcpwr.com](http://www.dcpwr.com)



OTVARC ONLINE CALENDAR: <http://my.calendars.net/otvarc/>

May 30-31, June 1, 2008  
Seaside Oregon  
NORTHWESTERN DIVISION ARRL CONVENTION  
[www.seapac.org](http://www.seapac.org)

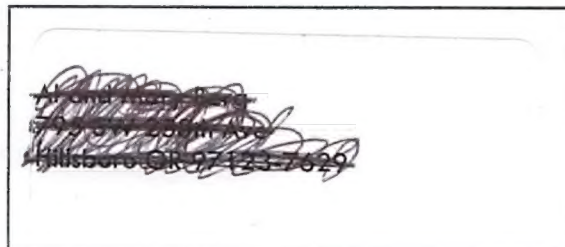


OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
880 NE 25th Ave. Ste 2-160  
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Web: [WWW.OTVARC.ORG](http://WWW.OTVARC.ORG)  
w7otv@arrl.net  
Simplex: 147.54 MHz  
Repeaters: 146.96 MHz (Goat Mtn)  
223.94 MHz (Goat Mtn)  
440.250 MHz (Goat Mtn)  
440.350 MHz (127.3 KGON Tower)  
Editor: Everett W6ABM w6abm@arrl.net



CLUB MEETING  
AUGUST 8TH

# *The OSCILLATOR*

Volume 30 Issue 8+  
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Amateur Radio Club

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## BOB'S BARREL

Robert Crocker WN7O



July was a great month. We had excellent weather, a fun outdoors event, and great friendship. The Cedar Hills Park has just the right ambience, shelter, and available parking space. This shelter accommodated everyone and few additional lounge chairs were needed. The abundance of side dishes complimented the many varieties of meat destined for the grills. There were enough grills to handle everyone's needs, so that no real delays were experienced. The evening was cool, not hot as some expected, and the location and scenery just right. We all enjoyed ourselves immensely. Our August 8th meeting, the Ice Cream Social and Tail Gate Party, will be held at the Cedar Hills Park, located on Cedar Hills just north of the Walker Road intersection. We have reserved the shelter for August 8th. Parking is opposite the shelter and is first come first served. I hope everyone will attend. Maybe we can share summer events. Our September meeting is September 12th and will be held at the Peppermill Restaurant. This is where the Washington County ARES group meets. We can order from the menu, the service and food are excellent. If we like this meeting place, we can have it for our regular meeting location on our regular meeting nights. Look it over carefully, we have few options at this time. We can discuss this at our Ice Cream Social. 73, Robert Crocker

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND TAIL GATE

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## FIFTH WEDNESDAY CONTEST

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29th

In many emergency situations we are called upon to make contacts without the benefit of our repeaters. Although some repeaters are outfitted with emergency power...most are off-the-air with power main failures.

In order to determine our capacities for simplex operation, and to add to the fun of making contacts within the club - and beyond - we have held a 2 Meter Fifth Wednesday Contest for many years. Our next event will take place in the last week of August, Wednesday, August 29th at 8:00 pm.

The object of the Fifth Wednesday Contest is to make contact, via simplex, with as many stations in as many different zip codes as possible. There are three classes of operation: Class A Single Op, Class B Single Op/5 Watts or Less, and Class C Multi Op.

Whether handheld or base, why not join us SIMPLEX 147.54 MHz on August 29th? The Log Sheet is on the back of this page.

Everett W6ABM



## OTVARC 5TH WEDNESDAY RADIO CONTEST - August 29, 2007

- 1) Object: To work as many amateur stations as possible in as many different 5-digit ZIP codes as possible, using 147.54 FM simplex.
- 2) Contest Period: 2000 local through 2100 local, Wednesday, August 29, 2007 (8:00 – 9:00 PM PDT).
- 3) Categories:
  - A) Single Operator: One person performs all operating and logging functions.
  - B) Single Operator QRP: Same as (A) with a power limitation of 5 watts.
  - C) Multi-operator: More than one person performing operating and logging functions.
- 4) Exchange: Operating 5-digit ZIP Code and Station Category.
- 5) Scoring:
  - A) QSO points: Count one (1) point for each complete single operator or multi-operator QSO. Count two (2) points for each complete single operator QRP contact.
  - B) Multiplier: The total number of 5-digit ZIP codes worked,
  - C) Total score: Multiply the total number of QSO points by the multiplier.
- 6) Miscellaneous:
  - A) Partial QSOs do not count. Both calls, the full exchange, and acknowledgement must be sent and received.
  - B) While no minimum distance is specified for contacts, equipment should be capable of real communications (ie. able to communicate over at least 1 km.).
  - C) Use of repeaters and telephones to coordinate contacts is not allowed.
  - D) Rovers are not allowed as entries in the contest. Mobile stations can be contacted by stations in the contest. Mobile stations will not have a ZIP code and will not count toward the multiplier count.
  - E) Only one call may be used by any station.
- 7) Reporting:
  - A) Entries must be delivered to the contest organizers at or before the September 12, 2007 OTVARC club meeting. (to: Jim Schaeffer, KB7ADH, Jim.Schaeffer@sulzer.com)), or by mail to the Club Post Office Address.
  - B) Entries must be made on log sheets showing time of QSO, Call, Zip Code and Contest Category.
- 8) Awards:
  - A) Certificates will be awarded for the top points winner in each station category.
  - B) Awards will be made at the club meeting October 10, 2007.

### Contest Summary Sheet

Call Used \_\_\_\_\_ Operating ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Other Operators \_\_\_\_\_

Category: A - Single Op B - Single Op QRP C - Multi-operator

Scoring:	Category A QSO's _____	x 1 =	_____
	Category B QSO's _____	x 2 =	_____
	Category C QSO's _____	x 1 =	_____
	TOTAL QSO Points _____		
	Times Number of Zip Codes x _____		
	TOTAL CLAIMED SCORE _____		